



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, since its birth as a nation, the United States has relied on the oceans for commerce and as avenues for the protection of national interests; and

WHEREAS, maritime power has two principal components – the Navy and Coast Guard which guard America's free use of the seas and the Merchant Marine which supports trade with nations and in emergencies becomes part of our military forces; and

WHEREAS, the United States is the leader in world trade through its strong and competitive maritime policy which is supported by the dual roles of the merchant marine in trade and defense; and

WHEREAS, Congress, in 1933, by joint resolution in recognition of the importance of the American Merchant Marine, designated May 22 of each year to be National Maritime Day to commemorate the day in 1819 when the SS Savannah departed Savannah, Georgia, for Liverpool, England, on the historic first transatlantic steamship voyage and requested that the President issue a proclamation calling for appropriate observance of that day; and

WHEREAS, the importance of the dedication of the men and women who serve on the high seas became very apparent during the recent conflicts in the Persian Gulf and Eastern Europe; and

WHEREAS, Idaho has access to the oceans through the Port of Lewiston;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim May 22nd, 2005, to be

MARITIME DAY

in Idaho, and I urge the people of this state to observe this day by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes and other suitable places and be aware of the sacrifices made and the service given by the men and women who serve in the Merchant Marines.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this sixth day of May in the year of our Lord two-thousand and five and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-ninth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred fifteenth.

A handwritten signature of Dirk Kempthorne in black ink.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature of Devin Isukua in black ink.

DEVIN ISUKUA
SECRETARY OF STATE